

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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Lawmakers' Job Still Unfinished

Hearings and Controversies on Foreign Policy Have Taken Much Time this Year

CONGRESS, after more than seven months, is still far from the end of its 1951 session. The lawmakers' work has been going more slowly than usual this year. Investigations and lengthy debates over foreign policy have taken much time.

The long, drawn-out session has been marked by friction between Congress and the Truman administration. Although there is a Democratic majority both in the House and in the Senate, the present lawmaking body is about as hostile toward Mr. Truman as was the Republican-controlled Congress of 1947 and 1948. This is because anti-Truman Democrats have cooperated with the Republicans on numerous occasions, and the coalition thus formed has often outvoted the President's supporters.

Major actions of the lawmakers, so far during the present session, are discussed in the paragraphs below:

MacArthur hearings. When President Truman removed General Douglas MacArthur from command in the Far East, early last April, there arose a tremendous dispute over our nation's foreign policy and military planning. MacArthur severely criticized the way in which the Truman administration was directing the Korean struggle.

Two Senate groups—the Foreign Relations Committee and the Armed Services Committee—held a joint hearing to obtain, in detail, the views of General MacArthur and of administration leaders. The General

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AMERICAN WARSHIPS share the job of defending the Mediterranean Sea, along with the ships of Great Britain and other North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries

Defending the Mediterranean

Western Allies Face Many Problems in Area Around Big Sea That Has Been Strategically Important for Centuries Past

FOR 3,000 years and more, men have gained wealth and power by winning control of the Mediterranean Sea. Those daring sailors of ancient times, the Asiatic Phoenicians, once dominated the sea's blue waters with their navy; they prospered for hundreds of years by trade with the colonies they founded on African and European coasts and on islands of the Mediterranean. The early Romans called the sea the "middle of the earth," for it was the center of their world. For centuries the Romans were the Mediterranean power.

As a water bridge joining the continents of Europe, Africa, and Asia, the great sea has retained its importance. Great Britain got Gibraltar from Spain in 1704; Britain fortified that tiny area (two square miles) to guard the western entrance to the sea. Britain also controls the eastern passage, the Suez Canal.

The United States has taken a keen interest in the faraway waters since the early days of our history. In the 1800's, we fought one of our earliest naval conflicts to wipe out pirates who were raiding merchant ships and

threatening our profitable trade in the Mediterranean. In both world wars, dominance of the Mediterranean helped bring victory to the allies.

Today, protecting the Mediterranean is of perhaps greater importance to free nations than ever before. Communist Russia is making big efforts to gain strong influence among nations around and close to the sea in the Middle East. There is tension in the entire area, caused in part by differences between Middle East countries and Great Britain—between Iran and Britain over Iranian oil, and between Egypt and Britain over control of the Suez Canal. Russia is seizing upon these disputes as an opportunity for trying to spread discontent among Middle Eastern peoples. Restoring stability in the entire area is most urgent, western defense planners say.

The role of leader in a program to hold back Russia in the Mediterranean-Middle East region appears to be falling to the United States. Britain seemingly welcomes American efforts to arbitrate Middle Eastern disputes. Militarily, U. S. air and sea power is expected to carry a heavy defense load. While cooperating with allies in the North Atlantic Treaty

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END OF SUMMER

According to its usual schedule, *The American Observer* will suspend publication for three weeks. The next issue of the paper will be published on September 10, 1951.



Walter E. Myer

An Orchestra for All

By Walter E. Myer

ALL of us have had the unpleasant experience at times of being obliged to listen while someone, ill trained or unmusical, produced confusion and discord by hammering the keys of a piano. At every thump upon the instrument there was a strident crash. Our ears were offended by rasping disharmony.

We knew all the time, of course, that our trouble could be traced to the player who was a fumbler and not an artist. We knew what artistry would have done for him and for us.

At another time, perhaps, we had sat in that very room at the feet of a master pianist. As his skilled fingers touched those very keys, there had come the pleasing melody of a Chopin nocturne. As we heard these mellow

strains, we were transported in our fancy from the worry and vexations of a too busy and troubled day to realms of peace and quiet and repose.

On yet another day this master pianist, in a different mood, had fired our imaginations, had quickened our steps, and stimulated our ambitions with a Liszt rhapsody. As we listened to noble strains of sacred music or to the grand compositions of Brahms or Bach, we grew ashamed of every mean act we had done.

Yes, it makes a difference whether one is an artist or a fumbler when he touches the piano keys. It makes an equal difference whether one has the artistic touch when he plays upon the keys of life's experience; a thing which each of us does every hour of the day. We are doing things, saying things, coming into contact with other people every moment.

And what impression do these contacts make? Do we create discord or harmony? Do we leave behind irritations, anxiety, unpleasant situations? Many do. Others by act and very presence create good will, inspire confidence, leave trails of harmony.

The well-educated individual is one who has learned to play, with a musician's touch, upon the sensitive instrument of human association. Young men and women who, during their years in school, learn to live pleasantly and thoughtfully and helpfully with others are finding their way to a life of usefulness and satisfaction.

Such individuals need not be, should not be, soft or meek or self-effacing. They may be forceful, self-assertive, provided they really live generously and harmoniously. They are the strong, the skilled, the artistic players in the great orchestra which includes us all.

U. S. Congress

(Concluded from page 1)

told these committees that our government should wage war more aggressively against the Chinese Communists, in an effort to win a decisive victory in the Korean conflict. Administration witnesses replied that MacArthur's policy, if followed, would greatly increase the danger of all-out world war.

No clear-cut decisions were reached, in Congress or elsewhere, as a result of the MacArthur hearings. The investigations did, however, give the American people an opportunity to study and appraise top officials' views on U. S. foreign policy—especially Far Eastern policy.

Although there was much angry debate over the MacArthur removal, the two Senate committees ended their hearing with a declaration that the world must not regard us as a quarreling and divided country. In a final statement, they said:

"We may differ on the proper policy to be applied in the Far East. We may separate on questions of strategy. We may divide on personalities. But we will be united in our devotion to liberty and justice, be single-minded in our will to preserve our institutions. . . ."

Troops for Europe. Late last year, President Truman announced that he intended to send additional U. S. troops to western Europe, to help bolster the defense of that area. When the lawmakers met in January of this year, they began arguing two questions: First, should these soldiers be sent at all? Second, should the President—as Commander in Chief of the armed forces—send them without first obtaining congressional consent?

Defense officials testified that the administration wanted to assign four combat divisions to Europe, besides the troops we already had stationed on that continent. In April, the Senate passed a resolution expressing agreement with this plan. At the same time, it was stated as an official view of the Senate—though not as a binding law—that the President ought to consult Congress before making any plans to send still more divisions.

In recent weeks, the soldiers-for-Europe debate has been renewed. The number of supporting troops that are scheduled to cross the Atlantic with the combat divisions is far greater than congressmen realized several



TROOPS for Europe's defense got congressional approval this year



THE CONGRESS as it met in joint session last January to hear President Truman outline the program he wanted made into law

months ago. So the lawmakers are again sharply questioning defense officials on the size of our overseas forces.

Economic controls. Shortly after the Korean war began, Congress passed the Defense Production Act of 1950. This law empowered President Truman and his assistants to control wages and prices, restrict civilian use of scarce materials, and take certain other steps that were considered necessary in the defense emergency. The measure was to expire this summer. In April, Mr. Truman asked Congress to strengthen the controls law and to extend it for two more years. A long, heated controversy followed. About two weeks ago, the lawmakers voted to continue the controls program until next June.

President Truman and his helpers are not satisfied with the measure that Congress has just passed. Mr. Truman's request for a strengthening of controls was ignored, and in some respects the lawmakers reduced his power to curb prices. As a result, say administration officials, our cost of living is likely to rise considerably. Most congressmen, however, insist that the new law is adequate.

Selective service. Congress has voted a four-year extension of the federal government's authority to draft men for the armed services. Under the law passed this year, men 18½ through 25 are eligible to be drafted. If a man in this age group is temporarily deferred, he remains subject to call until he reaches 35. Once a person is inducted, he is required to serve for two years. The new selective service measure contains special provisions on deferment of high school and college students.

Numerous lawmakers urged the establishment of a permanent Universal Military Training program, for training all young men as soon as they reach 18. Congress, however, did not give UMT final approval. Instead, it directed the President to set up a five-man commission, and asked that this group make a new study of the proposed program.

Food for India. In February, President Truman asked Congress to let our government send a large amount of wheat to famine-stricken India. Action on this request was delayed for several months.

India possesses large deposits of minerals that can be used for pro-

ducing atomic energy, but she has been reluctant to sell them abroad. Some congressmen declared that we should require her to pay for our wheat by sending us sizable quantities of these minerals. Others insisted that we would lose friends throughout the world if we sought, in this way, to take advantage of the Indian people's distress.

In June, Congress passed the aid measure without the demand for atomic minerals. India was granted a long-term loan of 190 million dollars, with which to buy about 2 million tons of American grain.

Appropriations and taxes. The lawmakers are far behind schedule on their yearly task of voting funds to finance the work of the government. In most cases, regular appropriations have not yet been made for the federal bookkeeping year which began on July 1, and so the government departments have been operating on temporary or "stopgap" grants of money.

The largest of the pending appropriations bills is one which would provide about 60 billion dollars for national defense. Also highly important is the foreign-aid grant of 8½ billion dollars which President Truman has requested. This measure would provide the money for our economic and military aid to other nations. Some of Mr. Truman's opponents hope to make sizable cuts in it, on the grounds that we should not be expected to send such a vast amount abroad at a time when our expenses here at home are extremely high. Truman's supporters reply that the proposed foreign aid will play an essential role in our nation's struggle against the threat of Soviet aggression.

Along with appropriations bills, which cover the spending of money, Congress is also studying ways of raising additional amounts. In February, President Truman asked for a 10-billion dollar increase in the nation's taxes. The lawmakers, however, are now working on a bill which would provide only a 7.2-billion-dollar increase. As this measure now stands, it would raise the levies on individual incomes, on corporation incomes, and on many types of purchases.

Savings bonds. Early this year, Treasury Secretary John Snyder stated that the American public was holding about 35 billion dollars' worth of "Series E" government bonds.

These are the relatively small savings bonds which people have been buying since the early part of World War II. The bonds were originally supposed to be cashed 10 years after their purchase, and the oldest ones were issued 10 years ago this spring.

Government officials realized, however, that if people started cashing bonds and spending money now, prices of scarce goods might be bid up rapidly. So Congress was asked to pass a law which would encourage Americans to hold their savings. The lawmakers quickly voted that a person can keep his "Series E" bonds for another 10 years and continue to accumulate interest on them.

Trading with Soviet areas. Late this spring, Congress voted that the United States should not give economic aid to any country which sells militarily useful goods to the Soviet-controlled nations. President Truman signed the measure, because it was included as part of a bill that his administration needed; but he condemned it as too sweeping. He felt that some of our allies must trade with Soviet areas in order to get raw materials which they require.

The President urges repeal of the measure. Meanwhile, acting under a section that permits him and his advisers to make any exceptions which they regard as necessary, the President has temporarily exempted all our friends and allies from the provisions of the law.

Many congressmen sharply condemn the President's action. As a general rule, they declare, it makes little sense for us to be helping countries that are selling strategic goods to Russia or her satellites.



STILL snowed under . . .

Other activities. The Senate Crime Investigating Committee, headed first by Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee and at present by Senator Herbert O'Connor of Maryland, has uncovered a vast amount of information on organized crime.

Under a bill recently passed by the House of Representatives, the United States government would give up its rights to rich underwater oil deposits along our seacoasts. Ownership of this oil would go to coastal states. The measure has not been brought to a Senate vote, as we go to press.

The present Congress has taken little action on new social security laws, national health insurance, federal aid to education, and the like. President Truman has been less insistent on such welfare programs this year than at previous times. In his messages to Congress, he has chiefly emphasized measures which he feels are directly related to the emergency defense effort.

Weekly Digest of Fact and Opinion



RECORDAR CORPORATION
NEWSPAPERS and books recorded on film require less storage space in libraries. The machine enlarges the film so that a researcher may read it easily.

(The views expressed in this column are not necessarily endorsed by THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.)

"Mountains of Knowledge," By John J. O'Neill, *New York Herald Tribune*.

Man's accumulated knowledge is becoming a burden to him. It is becoming so voluminous in the form of books that he is encountering difficulty in providing space for it.

The down-to-earth aspect of storing books is becoming a nightmare to librarians. The number of books in research libraries is more than doubling every 16 years. The 150-year-old Library of Congress contains 9 million volumes and 28 million other items on 250 miles of shelves.

Microfilms, on which pages can be reduced photographically to one per cent of their original size, have been proposed as a solution and are being used to an increasing extent, but their aid is only temporary as they would, fundamentally, only postpone the time when the race would be engulfed by its own records.

Dr. Vannevar Bush, president of the Carnegie Institution in Washington, suggests setting up a new kind of library—a protective reserve. All the knowledge in the library would be codified and the coded material put on the equivalent of micropunch cards. When information was desired, an electrical brain would search the coded material, bring the original information forth from the library and transmit it to the scholar or reader by television or facsimile recording device.

"Guerrillas—Our Hope in Red China," by Robert Shaplen, *Collier's*.

Red China's rulers are increasingly concerned over an anti-Communist movement which already controls large areas of the mainland. They are especially worried because they themselves fought a long guerrilla war before they took over the country—and they know the possibilities of that kind of fighting.

But the Chinese guerrillas are worried, too. They fear that unless outside aid is received in the next few months, their units will disintegrate. Their most serious problem is a shortage of guns and ammunition.

Many people who know the situation in China emphasize these points: First, that unless we follow through on our brave stand against aggression in Korea and quickly help the guerrillas in China, we may well lose our

best chance to gain real strategic advantage out of the Korean war. Secondly, we may cause China's millions to lose for an indefinite time the opportunity to rid themselves of their unpopular Red rulers.

Some 500,000 anti-Communist guerrillas are believed to be operating in China today. They are loosely organized and they have a weird conglomeration of weapons, mostly old rifles. But they have the active secret support of another million Chinese peasants, and the potential backing of many millions more.

What can be done to aid the guerrillas?

Although the new program of American military aid to the Chinese Nationalists is designed solely to fortify the defenses of Formosa, the guerrillas in their mountain hide-outs have undoubtedly taken heart from it. It remains to be seen, though, how much and how soon they will actually benefit from any possible by-products.

Actually some secret aid is already being extended to the guerrillas by way of American agencies in southeast Asia, but more help must be given if the guerrillas are to become an effective force. Already the Bamboo Curtain is slowly turning to iron. A few months delay may be too late.

"Can German Youth Teach Its Elders?" by Gertrude Samuels, *New York Times Magazine*.

More than 100 German teen-agers who spent the past year in American high and preparatory schools have just sailed for home. Specially selected from thousands of applicants, the youngsters were brought here with the backing of the U. S. government in order that they might be exposed freely to democratic forces. It is the hope of our government that they will now go back to Germany and make their influence felt in building a democratic country.

During their stay the German young people lived with American families and most of them appear to have adopted American customs and thinking to a high degree. They were amazed at the informal relationships and friendships between students and teachers. Such freedom and equality between teacher and the taught, which they found intellectually exciting as well as human, is almost

unknown in their own schools. Once back in Germany, they mean to make themselves heard—in the public forums, in schools, on the radio—to try to revise home and school life along the lines they have lived here.

What will come of their high hopes? Can they induce the democratic way to take root in a land where nazism once held sway? These questions cannot yet be answered. It can only be hoped that the year's experience of these students has given them courage to face the stubborn resistance they will find at home. The youngsters have a program. A few years will tell what comes of it.

"Monsieur Douvier Imports Know-How," By Egbert White, *United Nations World*.

Ever since the end of 1949 a small but steady stream of Europeans—industrial managers, technicians, foremen, workers, and union leaders—have visited the U. S. under the auspices of the technical assistance program of the Economic Cooperation Administration. One of these Europeans was Joseph Douvier, a foreman in a French textile factory.

For 50 days Douvier and his friends toured principal textile areas of the U. S. They visited equipment makers, met industry representatives, but most of all visited mills. Everywhere they received a hearty welcome.

Before he left the U. S., Douvier knew he had undergone the most important experience of his life. He saw the connection between the well-lit factories and the comfortable homes. He sensed economic freedom, and he sensed, too, that it could be cultivated in France.

Back in his own factory, Douvier effected changes in methods. He urged more mechanical handling of materials, fewer movements for workers, lighter loads. His factory adopted many American ways. Production rose, and so did production premiums for workers. Douvier is now on a speaking tour, urging similar changes in other French factories.

The ECA is convinced that men like Douvier will play a vital—if not decisive—part in the next and most important phase of the European Recovery Program. The technical assistance program was started because ECA realized as far back as 1948 that



TEACHING the "know-how." Monsieur Douvier, who studied American industrial technique under the European aid program, is back home now teaching workers in his textile mill the modern methods he learned in the United States. Monsieur Douvier is in the background.

the complete recovery of Europe could not be achieved without some radical departure from the traditional European way of producing goods in low volume at correspondingly low wages and high prices. Most participating countries have sent industrial and agricultural teams to the U. S. to discuss our production and marketing techniques.

Upon their return the men who have made these trips have applied in practice what they have seen in the United States. Some have achieved spectacular results. With American know-how, our European allies are increasing production and are raising living standards for themselves.

"News Agency—Reuters," *National Geographic News Bulletin*.

One hundred years ago last month a bird set out on a flight which was to bring man a box-seat ticket to the unfolding spectacle of world events. The feathered messenger was sent flying by a young German bank clerk, Julius Reuter. Reuter, with his pigeon post at Brussels, Belgium, started what is now an earth-girdling international news agency that carries his name. With headquarters in London, Reuters stands among other giants of the independent newspaper world—the Associated Press, United Press, International News Service, and France-Presse.

Fame came with the first scoop in 1859 when a Reuters reporter in Paris got an advance copy—a thing then unknown—of a speech by Napoleon III that meant war with Austria. As the French Emperor delivered his address, operators tapped it out on the Paris-London telegraph, booked for exclusive use by Reuters.

Six years later, the agency brought London the news of Abraham Lincoln's assassination days before its competitors. When word of the tragedy reached New York, the weekly mail boat to England had already started, but a Reuters correspondent hired a smaller craft to overtake it and deliver his dispatches.

Reuters moved on to further successes during World War II. Today the agency, which is a cooperative jointly owned by British, Australian, New Zealand, and Indian newspapers, supplies news to more than 3,500 newspapers throughout the world.



CHINESE TROOPS like these are being trained by the Nationalist government on Formosa Island. On the mainland, other anti-Communist Chinese get less formal training for guerrilla warfare.

The Story of the Week

Trouble at West Point

A short time ago some 90 West Point cadets were faced with dismissal from the Military Academy after being charged with violations of the academy's honor code. They had, it was said, helped one another on examinations. West Point officials have been closely studying the records of each accused cadet to find out whether or not there are grounds for his dismissal from the academy; and each cadet was to be given an opportunity for a hearing before final action was taken.

Many of the accused men were top players on the West Point football team, and some were active in other sports at the academy. Because of this, and because of the "bribe scandals" in basketball, many citizens have asked that an investigation of sports ethics in schools and colleges be made—by either a public or private group.

Help to Korea

The United Nations is going ahead with plans to help rebuild Korea when peace comes to that devastated land. Most UN members, with the exception of Russia and her satellites, have already agreed to help the Korean people get back on their feet.

The United Nations Korea Reconstruction Agency, a body headed by A. Donald Kingsley, directs the job of rebuilding the war-torn land. Kingsley, an American who is chief of the UN International Refugee Organization, has just returned from Korea where he set up special aid stations. He is now getting materials ready for the bigger task.

As soon as the shooting stops in Korea the UN agency hopes to help



CARE packages are helping to ease the suffering of Korean civilians

the thousands of homeless and sick people and the orphaned children, by giving them food, job training, and other forms of aid. It also plans to provide Korean farmers with some 40 million dollars' worth of fertilizer to help them raise the food needed by the country's hungry citizens. The job of rebuilding the 600,000 homes destroyed or badly damaged by the war is high on the list of "musts" in the UN program. Timber and other building materials are to be sent to Korea for the construction of homes.

U.S. Naval Leaders

In recent weeks, three naval appointments were made by President Truman. They are:

Admiral William Fichteler. Formerly chief of the U.S. Atlantic fleets,



ALASKAN PROSPERITY. This dairy farm on one of the Matanuska Colony tracts is part of a resettlement project that has grown into a thriving neighborhood since it was started in 1935.

Fichteler now holds the Navy's top job as Chief of Naval Operations—a post previously held by the late Admiral Forrest Sherman.

The 55-year-old sea leader graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1916. A veteran of both World Wars, he distinguished himself in the second conflict in campaigns involving the Gilbert Islands, New Guinea, and the Philippines. A year and a half ago he became head of the U.S. Atlantic fleets, and five months ago he was named chief of the combined North Atlantic Treaty Organization navies in addition to his other duties. In taking his new job, Fichteler stepped down as supreme commander of the NATO fleets.

Admiral Lynde McCormick. Admiral McCormick now holds Fichteler's former post as chief of the U.S. Atlantic fleet, though he did not assume command of the NATO ships. McCormick, who is 55, is widely regarded as a specialist on submarines and submarine warfare.

Dan Kimball. The top civilian naval post is held by Kimball, who formerly was Undersecretary of the Navy for two years. Born in St. Louis, Missouri, the new Secretary of the Navy left high school to go to work in an auto garage at the age of 15. After serving in the Air Force during World War I, he became a salesman and business executive.

Elections in Israel

Israel's second national elections in the country's history, held late last month, are past but not forgotten. Many of the land's 1½ million citizens are still wondering what changes, if any, the elections will bring about in Israel's domestic and foreign policies.

One of the big issues over which the election campaign was fought was this: How far should the government go in regulating the economic life of the nation?

Out of a total of 120 seats in the Knesset, or parliament, Prime Minister Ben-Gurion's party won about 46 places—the largest single bloc of legislative seats gained by any party. Ben-Gurion, who has been Israel's Prime Minister since the Jewish state was founded in 1948, thinks government controls over business ac-

tivities and price ceilings on foods and other necessities of life are required.

The General Zionist Party—a conservative group made up largely of businessmen—won the second largest number of legislative seats in last month's elections. This group opposes all government regulation of business.

The Israeli Communists made slight gains in the legislature, but some pro-Soviet parties suffered heavy losses at the polls.

New Control Law

President Truman is asking Congress to strengthen the price control law passed by the legislators at the end of last month. (See article on Congress, page 1.) The Chief Executive warned the lawmakers recently that the existing law allows prices to rise to "heights that we cannot yet foresee."

The new legislation extended last year's control law, with some changes, until next June 30. Here, in brief, are some of its chief points:

1. Wages are to remain "frozen" under the new law as they were previously. That means no wage boosts will be allowed unless the increases can be justified because of higher living costs.
2. Landlords, particularly in defense areas, cannot raise the rents on dwellings without government approval, though some increases are virtually automatic.
3. The Office of Price Stabilization has less authority than it formerly possessed to cut back prices on certain goods. The price of beef, for example, cannot be reduced below present levels.
4. Refrigerators, television sets, and other household appliances can be bought with a down payment of 15 per cent of the item's cost—the old law required a 25 per cent down payment. Installment payments can now be spread over 18 months, instead of 15 months as in the past.

A Bigger Air Force?

We must greatly increase our air strength or Russia will win the race for air supremacy, Defense Secretary George Marshall warned recently. Reports show, the defense chief con-

tinued, that the Soviet Union's air armada is about as powerful as ours and is still growing rapidly.

Our air force now has 87 air groups and is shooting for 96 groups by next June. (An air group varies in size. It may include from 18 heavy bombers to 75 fighter planes.)

President Truman is also asking for a boost in U.S. air strength. Some senators, too, including Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, want to increase our air power. In fact, Senator Lodge thinks the nation should have at least 150 air groups in operation within the shortest possible time. Members of Truman's administration have suggested a strength of 138 air groups as the goal to be reached by 1953.

Indo-China

Will Indo-China become another major battleground in the struggle between Communism and the western allies? Some observers fear this may happen if Red China should increase the aid it is sending to the rebel Communist-led guerrillas who are fighting French and native armies in Indo-China.

Located on China's southern border, Indo-China has been a trouble spot for several years. During and after World War II, Indo-Chinese nationalists began a widespread movement for independence from France. The European country had controlled the area for many decades. In attempting to avoid disaster, the French set up a republic in Indo-China, but a nationalist group, headed by the Communist leader Ho Chi Minh, demanded more self-rule and more territory. Fighting broke out between French forces and Ho Chi Minh's guerrillas, and the struggle has been going on ever since.

With French assistance, anti-Communist Indo-Chinese established the states of Viet Nam, Laos, and Cambodia. The three states have the right to run their own internal affairs, but rely heavily on military support from France.

It is believed that France has already sent about one third of her



INDO-CHINA is still troubled by Communist guerrillas

HARRIS & EWING
TrumanACME
WarrenHARRIS & EWING
EisenhowerDEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
MacArthurNEW
DouglasHARRIS & EWING
TaftHARRIS & EWING
Vinson

SEVEN MEN WHO ARE SPOKEN OF AS PRESIDENTIAL POSSIBILITIES FOR 1952

land forces and one half of her navy to put down the guerrilla uprising. Troops from continental France, the French colonies, and Viet Nam are all taking part in the war against the Communist forces. America is helping, too, by giving military supplies to Indo-China.

Signs indicate that the rebel forces, aided by arms from Red China, may be building up for a large-scale offensive next winter. Some people think the Chinese Communists are planning to intervene directly in the war by sending in "volunteer" troops, as they did in Korea. Others believe this is unlikely. Meanwhile, the western allies are keeping a watchful eye on troubled Indo-China.

Iron Source

A vast deposit of iron ore, located in Canada on the border between Labrador and Quebec, may soon provide raw materials for America's steel mills. The deposit may even rival the famed Mesabi Range of Minnesota as a source of iron. According to the Canadian government, some 140 million tons of ore have already been discovered on two large holdings there. Engineers believe that the inexpensive open-pit method of mining may be used for extracting much of the ore.

Transportation is a major problem in that wild, bleak region. An airfield was opened up in 1947, and steam shovels, bulldozers, and other types of equipment have since been flown in. Forests, rock formations, and mud have slowed up the building of a railroad, however. Construction crews must face swarms of insects during the summer, and freezing cold temperatures—sometimes 50 degrees below zero—in the winter.

Once the railroad is completed, the ore can be transported to freighters at the mouth of the St. Lawrence River. From there, it can be shipped to America's large East coast ports, and then carried by rail to our big steel producing centers. Business leaders are now considering plans for building a steel mill in New England, at a site more accessible than established mills to the new source of raw materials.

Presidential Possibilities

Democrats and Republicans are already preparing for the big political campaigns to be held next year. Next to the November election itself, probably the most exciting political events will be the Republican and Democratic party conventions in Chicago, where the two major Presidential candidates are to be chosen. The GOP will open its convention on July 7, to be followed two weeks later by the Democratic gathering.

A number of possible candidates have been mentioned so far, and no

doubt many others will come to the fore as time goes on. Here are a few of the men now being talked about as Democratic choices:

President Harry S. Truman, at present serving his seventh year in the White House, is not saying whether he will run for re-election. Some observers think that he had made up his mind not to run again, but that his fighting spirit is now high because of numerous attacks on his policies.

Senator Paul H. Douglas of Illinois is favored by some Democratic groups. He has generally supported Truman's programs, but he has also advocated cutting the administration's budget and is now engaged in a dispute with the President over the appointment of federal judges in Illinois.

Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson of the U.S. Supreme Court is thought to have a good chance of winning the Democratic nomination. He has had experience in all three branches of the federal government, and is a close friend of President Truman.

Among the numerous Republican choices are the following:

Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio is a Republican leader in Congress. Mr. Taft, elected to his third term in the Senate last year, recently announced that he was "sounding out" sections of the nation to see if he could win the Presidential nomination.

Governor Earl Warren of California is popular with many Democrats, as well as with his own Republican party followers, in the West coast state. He was the Republicans' choice for Vice-President in 1948.

General Douglas MacArthur is a strong critic of the Truman administration on both foreign and domestic issues. The former Supreme Commander in the Far East is planning to deliver speeches in various parts of the country. He has declared that he is not a candidate for political office, however.

Political leaders are not certain whether *General Dwight Eisenhower* considers himself to be a Republican or a Democrat, or whether he will run for office. The General, now in Europe serving as supreme commander of the North Atlantic Treaty forces, is liked by many voters in both major parties.

Baseball Scene

What teams will meet in the world series this year? The answer to that question will be determined within a few weeks, for the baseball pennant races are now going into the exciting home stretch.

Most sportswriters think that the Brooklyn Dodgers will win the National League championship. The Brooklyn nine shot out to a comfortable lead early in the summer and may succeed the Philadelphia Phillies

as the National League titleholder.

Brooklyn has a well-balanced team. In Gil Hodges and Duke Snider the Dodgers boast two of baseball's leading home run hitters, while Jackie Robinson is making a good bid for the league batting crown. The mainstays of the pitching staff are big Don Newcombe and spindly "Preacher" Roe.

On the other hand, the American League race has been a free-for-all, with four teams battling it out all summer for top honors. Demonstrating that they have lost none of their fighting spirit, the New York Yankees, 1950 world champions, are making a determined bid to repeat as pennant winners. Vic Raschi, Ed Lopat, and Allie Reynolds are the mound standouts for the New York club.

Challenging the Yankees are the Boston Red Sox and the Cleveland Indians. The Red Sox have another hard hitting team and have been getting good pitching, too. The sparkplug of the Boston team has been Clyde Vollmer, hitherto an unsung substitute. Vollmer's hitting in the clutch was sensational during July.

To buttress their bid for league honors, the Cleveland Indians are relying on one of the best pitching staffs in baseball, headed by the two Bobs—Feller and Lemon. Luke Easter and Bob Avila, the Mexican second baseman, are two of the Indians' leading batters.

The Chicago White Sox, early-season sensations of the American League, have slipped considerably of late, but they are by no means out of the running. Led by rookie outfielder "Minnie" Minoso, the White Sox have a potent batting punch which may yet pull them to the top.



EXCITING MOMENT in that grand old American game of baseball as Duke Snider steams into first in a game between the Brooklyn Dodgers and the Chicago Cubs. It will soon be World Series time again.

News in Brief

Israel may soon become an important oil producing nation. After making a thorough survey of the Middle Eastern land, American geologists recently stated that Israel appears to have large quantities of crude oil below the ground. Further tests and the actual drilling of wells will show whether large deposits of oil exist in the Jewish nation.

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A United Nations group is trying desperately to find out what happened to about 1½ million German and Japanese war prisoners. It is believed that Russia is holding these men, who have been missing since the end of World War II. The UN has asked Soviet leaders to allow a special group to go to the USSR in an effort to find the prisoners. This Russia refuses to do. In fact, she flatly argues that the Soviet Union is not holding large numbers of war prisoners at all. The Communists claim that only a few "war criminals" are being held in Russian territory.

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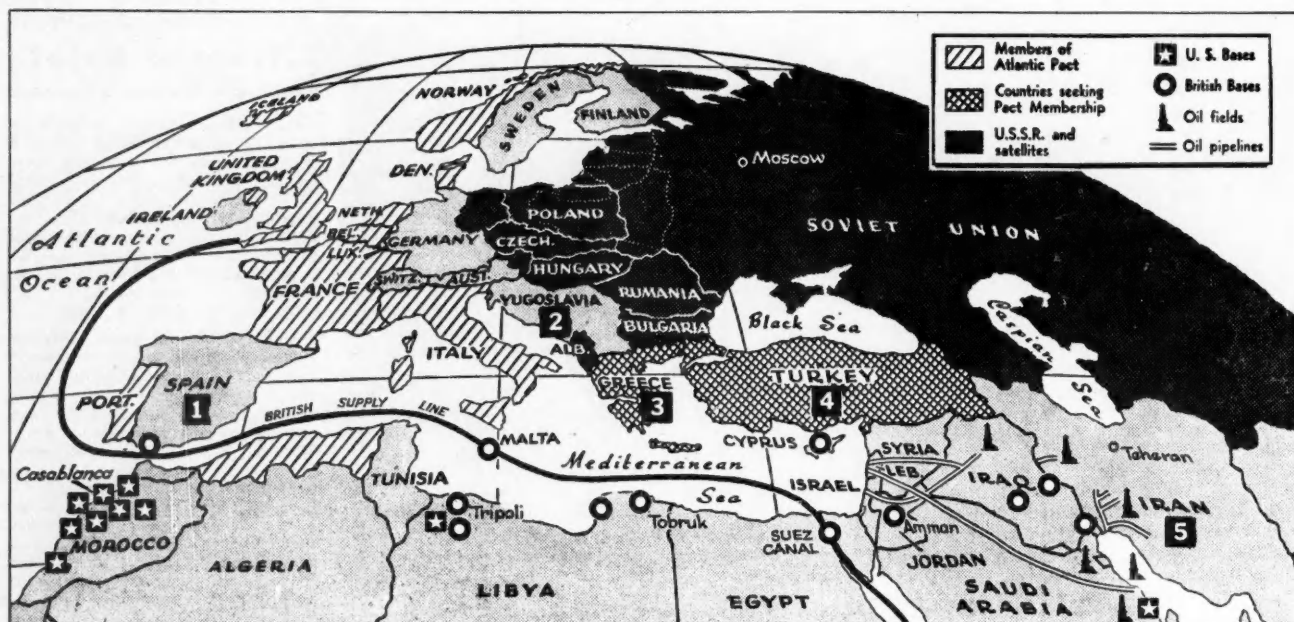
Coast to coast television will be a reality before the end of this year, officials of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company declare. The communications firm is now putting up a chain of radio relay stations across the nation. These stations will connect cities on the West coast with other sections of the country.

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News from within the Soviet Union is often found hidden inside the lengthy speeches made by Russia's officials. Recently, while calling upon the Soviet citizens to work harder than ever before, a Russian Communist leader revealed that the Baku oil fields—the largest single source of petroleum in the USSR—are producing less oil now than they did 10 years ago. The drop in oil production is said to be from 22 million tons in 1940, to less than 16 million tons last year.

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The big Abadan oil refinery remains shut down as a result of British-Iranian disagreement over nationalizing Iran's oil. Hopes are rising that the dispute may be settled, however. Last week, representatives of Britain and Iran met to resume talks which had been broken off two months earlier.



THE MEDITERRANEAN, strategic sea. Its defense is complicated by several factors. Spain (1) appears ready to grant air bases to the United States, but other European nations frown upon cooperation with that Mediterranean country; Yugoslavia (2) wants arms aid from the west but shies away from any formal defense tieup; Greece (3) fears that if admitted to the Atlantic Pact her forces may be under an Italian general; Turkey (4) seeks a definite security arrangement in exchange for air bases, and in Iran (5) there is danger that the Communist Party may try to take over the government.

Mediterranean

(Concluded from page 1)

Organization, American diplomats also are pioneering the building of new alliances so as to widen the network of nations linked in a common effort against aggression by Soviet Russia.

Building new military bases in the Mediterranean area is being given a high priority in defense planning. The Department of Defense has asked Congress for over two billion dollars to pay for all our overseas bases. Of the total, the Air Force wants 1½ billion, the Navy about 240 million, and the Army about 470 million. A good deal of the money is earmarked for use in the Atlantic and Pacific geographical areas. A large part, however, is to be spent—if Congress allots the money—on installations in Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East.

The Air Force now operates bases in African Libya, and one at Dhahran Airport, Saudi Arabia, near the Persian Gulf. An agreement was reached recently for the opening of five bases in French Morocco; these North African installations are to be headquarters for a strategic air command. They probably will be bases for medium B-50 bombers, which could reach Communist-held territory in the event of war.

The Air Force has arranged to share British bases in Middle Eastern Iraq and on Cyprus, the British island in the eastern Mediterranean. Details of planning are secret, but it is known that bases are being sought in Turkey and Spain. The Air Force probably wants to establish bases in Greece also. Along with bases in the NATO countries France and Italy, the Air Force would have a network blanketing the Mediterranean.

In the Mediterranean area the Navy is interested in getting installations in Spain, but the Navy's biggest outlay will probably be to improve and enlarge bases shared with other NATO nations in France, Italy, on the British islands of Malta and

Cyprus, and at Gibraltar. Such a network would put naval forces in a strong position in the Mediterranean. The army, so far as is publicly known, is developing no big projects within the Mediterranean theater; its concern at present is with the maintenance of depots in northern Italy for supplying American occupation troops in Austria.

Stronger alliances are a part of the program for Mediterranean defense. The right to use bases in friendly countries can be of immense value, but it would not be enough in the event of war. The United States and her allies want the friendly countries also to be ready to fight for defense in addition to letting us use their territory.

Turkey and Greece probably, therefore, will be permitted to join NATO in the near future. Both countries are now receiving American military supplies and help in training their armies. Both are willing to fight and want to join NATO for their own protection. Both countries are strategically important. Turkey guards the straits of the Dardanelles, which are the only route into the Mediterranean for Russia's warships in the Black Sea. Greece stands guard over the Aegean Sea, through which the Russian fleet would have to pass if it succeeded in leaving the Dardanelles.

Some Objections

There have been difficulties in reaching agreements satisfactory to Turkey, Greece, and the NATO nations. Britain especially has objected that the countries are too far away from the Atlantic to be included in an Atlantic defense setup; Britain has wanted a separate Mediterranean alliance to be formed. Greece has been afraid that her troops would be placed under Italian generalship in NATO; this the Greeks would resist, remembering that Italy invaded Greece in World War II. Discussions in recent weeks, however, are said to have overcome the major objections and cleared the way for taking Turkey and Greece into NATO.

Yugoslavia presents something of a problem. It borders on Communist

Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, and Hungary, and a good many military strategists believe it is next in line as a target of Russian aggression. Yugoslavia, while resisting Russian domination, is nevertheless a Communist nation. She has shown increasing friendliness toward the west in recent months, but shies away from any outright alliances with western nations. The west is similarly cautious. Yugoslavia is, though, being supplied with some American arms and is getting economic help from us.

Spain poses a serious issue. (See THE AMERICAN OBSERVER for August 6.) Britain and France are strongly against any tie with Spain; they feel Spanish help cannot be counted upon in a crisis. The United States is going ahead alone in an effort to get strategically-located Spain to share responsibility for Mediterranean defense. No definite agreements have been announced.

The Middle East countries near the Mediterranean, and those of Africa along the sea, present intricate problems difficult to solve. While we are establishing defense bases in some of the Middle Eastern countries and while a defensive pact may be worked out there, the west also must deal with many other questions. There is for one thing an increasing hostility among Arab peoples against the west; this seems in part to be due to a rising nationalist spirit; and Communist agitation is increasing.

In Iran, there has been a dispute for many weeks over the Iranian government's seizure of oil wells which Britain formerly operated under lease. Settling this question is important to Middle-Eastern peace, and the United States has been trying to get Britain and Iran to end the dispute by arbitration. There is danger that Communists may take advantage of the unsettled situation and try to establish a Communist government.

In Jordan, uncertainty has been created by assassination of King Abdullah. The British counted upon him as a friendly collaborator to help maintain peace among Arab states. His death raises the danger that

power-seeking Arabs may set off bitter conflict in the Middle East.

Egypt is demanding that Britain remove her troops from the Suez Canal. The British guard the canal by agreement with Egypt. The canal is in Egyptian territory, however, and a further agreement provides that the canal rights be handed back to Egypt in November 1968, more than 17 years from now. Egypt wants to hasten the British exit.

Israel Has Trouble

Israel has had trouble with both Egypt and Jordan. There has been a dispute with Egypt over that country's efforts to keep Israeli ships from using the Suez Canal. Israel and Jordan have been involved in bitter strife over rights to waters for irrigating their adjoining territories.

In Tunis and in Morocco, there have been Arab-led demonstrations on behalf of independence and against the protectorate governments of France. In Iraq, there is agitation for seizure of oil fields. The fields now are operated by a British-managed company which pays Iraq high royalties.

Communist Russia is trying to make the most of all these disturbances. Radio Moscow has expanded its propaganda broadcasts to Arab countries. Communist China has been broadcasting statements encouraging Arabs to stand against the west. Although Russia strictly controls Moslems within the Soviet Union, the propaganda toward the Middle East speaks of religious tolerance, and of the need for friendly relations between Soviet Moslems and those of other lands.

The United States faces a big job in undertaking to strengthen defenses against Russia and, at the same time, to help restore harmony in lands in and around the Mediterranean. Britain, formerly the big mediator in much of this area, looks to us to take on a bigger share of the load. How much we shall be able to accomplish, no one knows. One thing, however, is certain. This nation, more than ever before, is finding that being a leading world power imposes many burdens.

Study Guide

Congress

1. Explain why there has been a great deal of friction between President Truman and Congress this year, even though there are Democratic majorities in the House of Representatives and in the Senate.
2. Briefly describe the two main opposing points of view that were presented during the MacArthur hearings.
3. What questions were debated in the troops-for-Europe controversy, early this year?
4. What does President Truman think of the economic controls measure which Congress recently passed? How do his congressional opponents reply?
5. Describe the main provisions of the present selective service law.
6. What did Congress do about providing grain for famine-stricken India? Tell of the controversy that arose over this subject.
7. List several important matters, besides those mentioned above, that the lawmakers have handled this year.

Discussion

1. As a whole, do you feel that Congress has been making a good record during its present session? Why or why not?
2. In your opinion, what is the lawmakers' most important accomplishment of the year? Explain your position.

The Mediterranean

1. Tell something about the importance of the Mediterranean in ancient and modern times.
2. Give the reasons why the Mediterranean is possibly of greater importance to free nations today than it ever was in the past.
3. In what three ways is the United States assuming much of the responsibility for Mediterranean defense?
4. Outline briefly the program for air and naval bases that is now developing. How much is it to cost?
5. Tell something of the difficulties that have been encountered in arranging agreements with Turkey, Greece, and Yugoslavia.
6. What sort of an alliance does Britain favor for Turkey and other Middle East countries?
7. Name the countries of the Middle East troubled by disputes and tell something about the causes of each quarrel.

Discussion

1. Do you believe the United States is doing the right thing in assuming a big share of responsibility for defending so much of the world? Give reasons for the position you take.
2. Do you think the need justifies the cost of expanding our air and naval bases in the Mediterranean area? Why or why not?

Miscellaneous

1. Name Israel's two biggest political parties. How do they differ on the issue of government controls over the nation's economic life?
2. What steps does the United Nations Korea Reconstruction Agency plan to take in Korea should the war end?
3. Where is an important source of iron ore being tapped?
4. Briefly describe the struggle between the Communist and the anti-Communist forces in Indo-China.
5. Why do sportswriters think the Brooklyn Dodgers may win the National League championship this year?
6. What new post does Admiral William Fechteler hold?

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 "Tensions in the Middle East," two articles by Ellen Deborah Ellis, *Current History*, May and June 1951.

Pronunciations

Ahmed Zogu—ahk-méd' zóg'w
 Dhahran—dahk-rah'n
 Enver Hoxha—én'vur haw'jah
 Fechteler—fèk'tel-er
 Macao—muh-cow
 Mehmet Shehu—mèhk-mèt shé'hō
 Otranto—ót-rah'n'tō
 Valona—vah-law'nah



ALBANIA, a tiny, mountainous land, is a Communist nation allied with Russia

Albania and Russia

Tiny Mediterranean Nation Is Valued Highly by the Soviet Rulers Because of Its Location on the Sea

ALTHOUGH little Albania is one of the most backward nations in Europe, the Soviet Union values the satellite highly because of her strategic position. Not only does Albania flank Yugoslavia, Russia's bitter enemy; she also commands the narrow Strait of Otranto, which forms a bottleneck between the Adriatic and Mediterranean Seas. Because of Albania's location, Russia has been fortifying the satellite at top speed.

Numerous newspapermen have reported that Valona, one of Albania's principal ports, and the nearby island of Saseno have been converted into strong submarine bases. Submarines form the backbone of Soviet seapower. From Albania the underwater craft would be in a good position to attack shipping going to the important city of Trieste, to Yugoslavian ports, and elsewhere in the Adriatic. The submarines also would be in a position to strike at shipping in the nearby Mediterranean.

Furthermore, Soviet strategists realize that aircraft based in Albania could extend Russian striking power toward North Africa and western Europe. Engineers from the U.S.S.R. have, as a consequence, built a number of air bases in the satellite land.

These military moves have created bitter resentment among large numbers of native Albanians. Since much of the land is mountainous or barren, and cannot be cultivated, the food supply is scant in the best of times. The building of airfields, of course, has taken up land which might otherwise be tilled. Not long ago Russian technicians drained swamp lands in the southern part of the country and natives hoped this was done to provide badly-needed farm land. Their hopes were dashed when five air bases were constructed in the area.

The U.S.S.R. is making the most of its subject state in another way. The small nation has fairly rich deposits of oil, chrome, and other minerals. These war materials are being mined and shipped to the Soviet Union at a rapid rate.

Russia is by no means the first power to overrun Albania, which is about the size of Maryland and has a population of about one million. The little state was part of the Turkish Empire for more than four centuries, until she proclaimed her independence in 1912.

During World War I, though, Albania was successively occupied by Italian, Greek, French, Serbian, Austrian and Bulgarian forces. After the war, in 1925, a republic was set up with Ahmed Zogu as president. Three years later he became King Zog I.

In World War II Italian and German troops occupied the country, but the Axis grip was broken by the end of 1944. At that time a left-wing government was established with General Enver Hoxha at its head, and it came quickly under Soviet domination. Zog was driven into exile. He lives now in Egypt.

Hoxha is still the head of the regime, at least officially, but the country's strong man is said to be the Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Shehu. Shehu, who was trained in Moscow, commands a well-equipped army of 70,000 men whose chief duty is to maintain order within the nation. Because of the ruthless methods with which his police have stamped out resistance to the Communist government, he is known as the "Butcher."

Despite the terror spread by his men, resistance by many Albanians continues. Much resentment has been caused by the police terror methods and by the frequent confiscation of food and property by the government. Native Albanians also are angry because they have a pitifully low living standard, while the Russian occupying officials live in luxury.

Democratic observers have been heartened by signs of resistance among the people. In rugged areas, liberty-loving mountain folk have clashed repeatedly with Communist soldiers. Thousands of Albanians are now working toward ultimate freedom,



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